

— The word *cartoon*, which we use to designate the large wood engravings that at intervals accompany the JOURNAL, has prompted a correspondent to invite us to a consultation of the dictionaries as to the meaning of this word. As in the case of the word *humanitarian*, in regard to which we made a few remarks last week, the dictionaries fail to record the larger and more liberal interpretation now by common consent given to "cartoon." Primarily, it is from the Latin *charta*, paper; next, we have it in Italian, *cartonne*, pasteboard; then we find it employed in painting, as a term for designs made on strong or thick paper, and intended as models for fresco-painting. They were at first only rough outlines of figures, which were cut out and attached to the wall, in order to trace the design upon the fresh plaster; but after a time they became more finished in character, until we find them attaining in some instances a very high art-value. The famous cartoons of Raphael, now at Hampton Court, England, and which were made for designs in tapestry, are described as "not excelled in beauty and completeness by any paintings in existence." Recently the word has been largely employed in England to designate engravings printed in journals separately from the text. The engravings in the *Illustrated News*, printed in with the text, have not received this title; but in *Punch* the large picture given each week, which, although printed on the same sheet, is apart from the text, is now very generally designated as a cartoon. In *Echoes from the Clubs*, and other papers of the class, the term in question is always used to describe the accompanying illustrations. It has not, as yet, been applied to steel engravings, the early significance of the term so far retaining as to exclude its application from pictures elaborate and delicate in character, like those engraved on metal. The convenience of the term must be conceded, there being no satisfactory equivalent in the language.

— The leading periodical of France is the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, which commands the best literary talent of Paris. Not long since it made the following extraordinary concession to Protestantism: "Much may be said of Protestant diversities and sects, but one fact remains certain; it is, that nations where the Bible circulates and is read have preserved a strong, deep, and enduring religious faith, while, in the countries where it is not known, one is obliged to deplore a moral superficiality and want of principles, for which a splendid uniformity of rites cannot compensate. Let the learned theologians discuss certain passages, or the authenticity of such and such texts; what are such matters compared to the healthful and pure atmosphere which the Bible spreads wherever it is read, whether in low or elevated classes?"

